[23rd September 1958

Birth control

* 456 *Q.*—Sri S. LAZAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to ban the operation method of birth control?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : No, Sir.

Family Planning

* 457 *Q.*—Sri K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the steps taken by the Government to popularise Family Planning;

(*b*) the percentage of reduction in birth-rate—

(i) so far achieved; and

(ii) aimed at, at the end of the Second Five-Year Plan; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to legalise abortion?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) A statement[a] is placed on the table of the House;

(*b*) (i) This has not been assessed;

(ii) No definite target has been fixed for the State. So far as Madras City is concerned, the aim is to reduce the birth-rate which is about 40 per 1,000 to 28 (the highest known European rate) in the next five years.

(*c*) No, Sir.

* 458 *Q.*—Sri K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to start a Family Planning Training Centre at Madras; and

(*b*) if so, what contribution and help this Government will get from the Central Government?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) A Training Institute is already functioning at the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Madras.

(*b*) The Government have sanctioned the upgrading of the Training Institute into a Regional Training Centre on the lines suggested by the Government of India. For this upgraded centre the Government of India have agreed to meet all non-recurring expenditure and recurring expenditure on a sliding scale. They have also offered to pay stipends for all trainees and travelling allowance for trainees deputed by other organizations.

Sathanur Project

*460 *Q.*—Sri P. S. SANTHANAM : கனம் பொது மராமத்து அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் தயவுசெய்து பதிலளிப்பாரா—

(அ) சாத்தனூர் நீர்த்தேக்கம் கட்ட மதிப்பிட்டத் தொகை எவ்வளவு ?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 587-588 infra.